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The Hongkong Telegraph

Today's Weather: Light SE winds, fair and warm. Coastal fog developing tonight.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure, 1014.3 mbs, 25.05 in. Temperature, 72 deg. F. Dew point, 66 deg. F. Relative humidity, 83. Wind direction, E by S. Wind force, 4 knots. Low water: 2 ft. 3 in. at 6.30 p.m. High water: 4 ft. 4 in. at 12.30 a.m. (Friday).

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THURSDAY, MARCH 23, 1950.

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BELGIUM'S GRAVE CRISIS

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Arsenal In

Economic Defence Of S.E. Asia

BRITISH CABINET TO MAKE STUDY

London, Mar. 22.—Official quarters said on Wednesday that a full meeting of the British Cabinet would be called before Easter to discuss plans for the economic defence of South-East Asia.

The sources said that "departmental" briefs had been prepared by the Foreign Office and the Treasury and distributed to the Cabinet ministers, outlining the proposed course of action on a plan for South-East Asia suggested by the Australian Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Percy Spender, at the Colombo conference in January.

It is understood that the Australian government has pressed for an early Commonwealth conference at Canberra to put the "Spender Plan" into action.

LONG-TERM AID

Officials said the Canberra conference would probably be held in May, and attended by the Commonwealth ministers of foreign affairs. They said it was doubtful, however, whether the Foreign Secretary, Mr. Ernest Bevin, would attend. Officials said the departmental briefs dealt mainly with proposals for long-term economic aid to South-East Asia.

The Canberra conference would determine firstly the total extent of Commonwealth aid to South-East Asia. Secondly, what would be the form and scope of the aid to be sought from United Nations specialised agencies. Thirdly, what aid can be hoped for from the United States.

On the question of sterling balances, officials quarters said it was obvious that further releases to countries in South-East Asia will be made to fit in with the general plan for the area. They said it was hoped that this plan would emerge in concrete form from the Commonwealth foreign ministers' meeting in Canberra.—United Press.

Cry Before Birth

Louisville, Kentucky, Mar. 22.—Two babies born here yesterday at the Kentucky Baptist Hospital cried audibly before birth, hospital authorities said today.

Doctors said there were only about 150 cases of such pre-birth audibility reported.

The babies, both girls and born several hours apart, started doctors, nurses and hospital staff when each cried about five minutes before delivery.

The babies, who were born to different mothers, were both reported to be well.—United Press.

Political Storm Brewing

London, Mar. 22.—A new storm threatened Britain's Labour Government tonight over the banishment for five years from his tribe of Seretse Khama, 27-year-old chief-designate of the African Batswana people.

The Government has refused to disclose the full findings of a judicial inquiry into the troubled situation in the tribe after Seretse had married a London typist, Ruth Williams.

The Parliamentary Liberal leader, Mr. Clement Davies, backed by other Members of Parliament, has called for a debate which the Government is expected to resist.

A Government White Paper issued today made it clear that the report of the Commission of Inquiry had been unanimously against recognising Seretse as chief and in favour of his exile, but it also said that certain views were expressed in the report which could not be accepted by the Government.—Reuter.

SHOCKING TRAIN ACCIDENT

Bogota, Mar. 22.—Thirty train passengers were killed and many were injured today in a wreck caused by a truck wash-out between Buenaventura and Bogota.—Reuter.

MINISTERS OF STATE TO MEET

"Caretaker" PM Resigns

Brussels, Mar. 22.—Belgium, without a Government and with bigger strikes threatened, faced a crisis tonight over the issue of King Leopold's return.

M. Gaston Eyskens, the Catholic "caretaker" Prime Minister, today abandoned his efforts to solve the 10-day old Royal problem and warned the nation that the situation was "extremely grave."

He had resigned and another Catholic, Count Henri Carton de Wiart, Minister without Portfolio, had taken over his four-day efforts to form a new Government.

A secret session of the Ministers of State—Belgium's 26-man Privy Council—was called for tomorrow.

"The situation in the country is extremely grave," M. Eyskens told reporters tonight. "Therefore, it is perfectly normal that the Regent, as the Head of State, should seek the advice of the Ministers of State who form the country's supreme consultative body."

Count de Wiart would "carry on the inquiry mission in the same spirit as I did and in accord with me," M. Eyskens said.

The Count, who is a veteran Social Christian (Catholic) Senator, commented: "The country should get back on the constitutional rails. This, as far as I am concerned, means the return of the King."

He described the Ministers of State as "not merely notables but honoured statesmen to whose experience and wisdom the Chief of State resorts in grave or critical moments of national life."

The Ministers of State, drawn from the three main parties—Catholics, Liberals and Socialists—are not members of the Cabinet. They form a consultative body to advise the Head of State in an emergency.

The members include Count Hubert Pierlot, war-time Premier, and M. Paul Henri Spaak, the Socialist ex-Premier.

M. Eyskens' Catholic-Liberal Coalition Government resigned on Saturday after disagreement on the means to reach a Parliamentary decision on the Royal problem. It did so six days after the nation's indecisive 57.6 percent vote for Leopold's return.

ABDICATE APPEAL

M. Spaak had earlier appealed to the King to abdicate in favour of his son, 19-year-old Prince Baudouin, and Liberal opinion—highlighted by the issue—was reported to be hardening against the King's return.

Belgium's Socialists, in the latest move of their anti-Leopold campaign, sought today to extend to bilingual Brussels the 24-hour general strike planned in the French-speaking South on Friday.

Socialist Members of Parliament will lead anti-Leopold marches through the streets of Liege, Mons and Charleroi, centres of the industrialized South.

More than 300,000 workers are to take part in these marches.

Last night the Liberals said that they would adhere only to a Government of "national concord and appeasement." For the Socialists, the only solution is King Leopold's abdication in favour of Prince Baudouin. The Communists want Belgium to become a "Popular Republic."

Meanwhile, King Leopold is under a heavy fire of contradictory advice at his lakeside villa at Preney, near Geneva, usually well-informed quarters said here today.

UNION'S THREAT

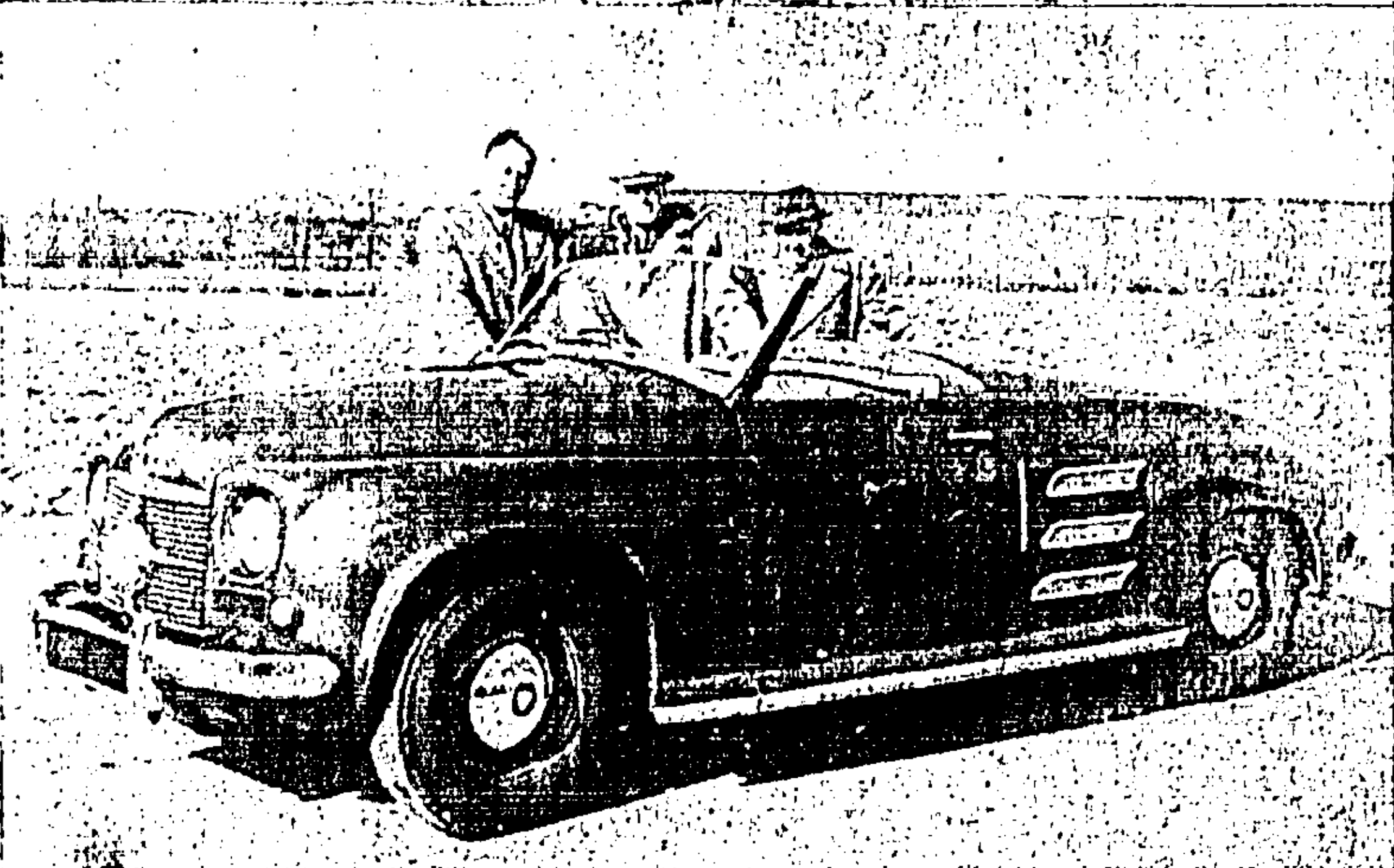
He is receiving telephone calls and visitors from Brussels. Some of them urge the King to abdicate "in two stages if not immediately." Others exhort him to "hold fast" and only abide by the decision of Parliament.

Today, the National Committee of the General Federation of Labour said that the present strike plans "were only a prelude to a vast action."

A communique issued following a meeting of the Committee today added "that a nationwide general strike would be unleashed at an opportune moment."

Count de Wiart is not expected to begin his consultations until after the Ministers of State have met tomorrow. The Count is one of Belgium's former Premier and has held various other Ministerial posts since 1912.

Count de Wiart entered Parliament 55 years ago. During the occupation he remained in Belgium and was taken as hostage by the Germans but released after a short spell in prison.—Reuter.



World's No. 1 turbo car, a Rover, has recently appeared and started a new chapter in motor history. In appearance like a normal car, except for two big exhaust vents behind the driver's head directing the gases straight into the air. It has three air-intake apertures outlined in chromium on both sides of the body. The gas turbine engine is just ahead of the rear axle. The car runs on kerosene, has done a test run of 85 m.p.h. at an engine speed of 35,000 revs. per minute. It has a maximum of just over 120 m.p.h. There are only two controls—break pedal and accelerator pedal. Pictured with the car are (1. to r.) Mr. Maurice C. Wilks, chief engineer, Mr. S. B. Wilks, managing director, and Mr. F. R. Bell, engineer in charge, of the Rover Company.—London Express Service.

Disorders In Italy: One Man Killed In Strike Clash

Rome, Mar. 22.—A new strike flare-up threatened Italy tonight after the death in hospital of an unemployed farm-worker who was wounded in a strike clash with the police today in Parma, Northern Italy.

Only three hours after the end of today's nation-wide 12-hour general strike, the Executive of the Communist-led Confederation of Labour called an emergency meeting to debate new strike action in protest against the shooting of the farm-worker.

New Type Of Torpedo

British Experiments

London, Mar. 22.—Britain is experimenting with new types of torpedoes which will "nose out" enemy submarines, set their own course and finally strike.

Giving details in a Parliamentary debate on the Navy Estimates today, Mr. James Callaghan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, said these new weapons were called "homing" torpedoes.

They would "home" on enemy submarines in due course.

They could be launched from an aircraft or fired from underwater, he said.

The policy of the Admiralty was directed on all fronts to countering the submarine menace. "The possession of a large force of submarines by any country must always constitute a perpetual menace to our lines of communications," he said.

MAJOR DEVELOPMENT

The Admiralty planned that all British anti-submarine ships should, in due course, be able to hunt the new type of submarine with a fast battery drive—one of the major submarine developments since the war.

The battery drive enabled ordinary comparatively slow-speeds to be boosted for a limited period so that the submarine could get under the tail of a convoy, fire its torpedoes and get away, he explained.

This was a "substantial menace" and Britain was building new frigates and converting existing vessels to deal with it.

Other points Mr. Callaghan made were:

All British battleships were now in reserve, except the 42,000-ton Vanguard.

Three eight-inch gun County class cruisers—the Norfolk, Sussex and London—were being scrapped.—Reuter.

Two-Man Raids

In the first half, although Chelsea's play was forced and often threatening, the Arsenal side were considered the slightly more dangerous team.

Arsenal pressed hotly on resumption after the interval. Chelsea settled down and the play went round and round in a typical thrilling Cup tie football.

Most of Arsenal's raids were two-man efforts, but they produced one brilliant combined move which caught Chelsea's defence napping, and a corner resulted. Denis Compton's shot was deflected just outside the post.

At the other end, Bentley twice got his head to Chelsea's corners each time beating Leslie Compton with a tremendous leap, but no goal resulted.

As each side strove desperately for the vital first goal, several petty fouls crept into the game.

A succession of narrow escapes at each end kept the crowd at a high pitch of excitement, and those in the open hardly noticed the slight drizzle which started.

Once, Logo missed a wonderful chance for Arsenal by over-running the ball, and he grasped a post and shook it in disgust.

Defences remained firm and with no score after 90 minutes, half an hour's extra play was necessary.—Reuter.

No Plum For Mr Horner This Time

London, Mar. 22.—Mr. Arthur Horner, miners' leader and one of Britain's most prominent Communists, was rejected today for a seat on the General Council of the powerful Trades Union Congress.

The National Union of Mine-workers, of which he is General Secretary, put him forward as its official nominee.

But, it is understood, Mr. Horner got only four votes.

The seat went to Mr. B. Walsh, General Secretary of the 24,000-strong National Association of Colliery Overmen.—Reuter.

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EDITORIAL

The Taxation Debate

THE speeches delivered at the Reform Club debate on Tuesday evening, the unanimous vote at that meeting, and the tenor of the debate on the Budget by the Unofficials yesterday should surely convince Government that nobody in Hong-kong, except Government, believes it is necessary to increase direct taxation in this approaching financial year for the purpose of making good an estimated deficit. It will be interesting to see whether Government is willing to bow to a clear majority opinion on this issue and to amend its revenue-raising proposals accordingly.

The Reform Club meeting and the Budget debate gave rise to some telling arguments, made all the more instructive because the approach was widely different. The Reform Club insisted that Government had failed to make out a case for increased taxation of any nature; the Unofficials, generally, accepted the necessity for raising additional revenue through taxation, but urged that this should be accomplished through indirect channels. On the one side, therefore, it is contended that the Financial Secretary errs in budgeting for a deficit; on the other it is agreed that this estimate is feasible, but that the balance should come from additional revenue raised in the most equitable manner possible. Government, undoubtedly, would prefer to be guided (if it is prepared even to make any concession on this point) by the Unofficials' attitude, for by changing its proposals for the collection of more revenue from increased direct taxation to increased indirect taxation, it surrenders its position only on the method of securing what it requires. But this does not answer some of the pertinent questions raised by the Reform Club. One of the most important was set forth by Mr. T. A. Martin, who wanted to know what justification existed for long-term capital expenditure projects to be

charged in full against a single year's revenue. Government may have a convincing reply, but it is not easy to avoid the conclusion which Mr. Martin reached that \$8 million (one million dollars more than the estimated deficit for next year) is to be paid out of revenue, all of which could and should be treated as loan expenditure. If it is agreed that this is a reasonable and proper way of dealing with non-recurrent expenditure on constructional works, then the forecasted deficit disappears, and there remains only one reason why any attempt should be made to increase tax burdens—that is to push up the surplus. Sir Mankam Lo appears to agree with this, for without qualification he supports the Financial Secretary's thesis that the Colony's reserves must equal the revenue for the coming financial year before they can be considered adequate. But while this may be a self-apparent "yardstick" to some, we are still doubtful whether it means that Government will be satisfied when it has a surplus equal to the estimated revenue for 1950-51, or whether, should the actual revenue exceed the estimate, it will insist upon that as the correct target. If the Colony can, by virtue of a normal process, attain a surplus equal to next year's revenue, it will call for some satisfaction; but we will have no truck with the suggestion that in order to build up such a reserve, the Colony has to suffer increased taxation, either direct or indirect. A surplus such as Government envisages is required only against an acute economic state of emergency, and there is no justification for disturbing the financial equilibrium of the community in any one year in order to provide for such a contingency. The importance of the surplus seems to loom rather too large in Government's conception of budgeting.

SOVIETS PRIME MOSLEMS FOR EXPANSIONIST AIMS

The Moslem republics of Soviet Central Asia are being developed into centres for potential imperialism, writes New York Times correspondent C. L. Sulzberger. As Moscow's dynamism concentrates increasingly upon the Orient, its little known satrap states of the Kirghiz, Tadzhik, Kazakh, Turkmen and Uzbek peoples are being groomed to aid future expansion.

These lands border on the great belt of Asia, extending from Iran across Afghanistan and India to Chinese Turkestan (Sinkiang) and Mongolia. Mixed by the melting pot of old Islam, the races inhabiting these regions of the Soviet Union are bound by religion and language to their cousins across the borders from China to the Persian Gulf.

The Tadzhiks, who speak Persian and are Sunni Moslems, have traditional ties with Iran and Afghanistan. The Turkmen, Uzbeks and Kirghiz have, during the course of history, swept back and forth across the steppes between China and Turkey.

Ever since the Bolshevik revolution Moscow has developed the idea that the Soviet Republic of the Ukraine had "claims" upon the Ukrainians living beyond the frontier, including inhabitants of Eastern Poland, Ruthenia in Czechoslovakia, and Bessarabia, Northern Bukovina, plus a tiny strip of Moldavia in Rumania. All these once-coveted regions are now part of the Soviet Union.

CONTROL OF SINKIANG

No claims have yet been voiced to expand the Central Asian Republics. However, Moscow is working through them to take over the Moslem tribes of Sinkiang and through the latter to gain control of that Chinese province.

Shortly after World War II the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics voiced "claims" for large sections of Turkey, including the eastern provinces of Kars and Ardahan. Such propaganda recently has been quiescent.

Now, however, new hints are beginning to emerge concerning Soviet expansionist plans. Within the past eight weeks two Politburo members have visited the Uzbekistan capital, Tashkent. Lavrenti Beria, chief of Soviet secret police, and also boss of the atomic energy programme, was there in December, and L. M. Kaganovitch in January.

Beria followed his visit with a newspaper article stating that the Uzbek Republic and Soviet Asia should serve as models for Asia and Turkey. Kaganovitch, who fought in that region during the civil war following the revolution, spoke in Tashkent on January 16 and said the same thing.

POLICY POINTERS

Words of this sort do not come lightly in the U.S.S.R. They may be taken as deliberately uttered clues to policy decisions. Thus clearly Central Asia and, above all, Tashkent are becoming internationally significant. Uzbekistan is being made into a "model" for the "enlightenment" of the East.

The Uzbek Republic, named for a Fourteenth Century ruler of the Tatar Golden Horde, is famous for its own rivers, the Jaxartes (Syr Darya) and Oxus (Amu Darya), where Sohrab and Rustum fought their romantic battle.

Fruit and grain have been grown for centuries in the oases dotting its windy plateaus. Since World War II Moscow has been seeking to develop a vast cotton-growing programme. It was merely to spare Osman Orpov, Uzbek Premier, for unsatisfactory cotton production. It is now deemed more likely that his visit was connected with the effort to tighten Russian and propaganda to the Asiatic peoples outside the U.S.S.R.

HATCHET MAN

When Kaganovitch, who seems to be the Politburo's hatchet man (he cleaned up the Ukraine two years ago), went there, some observers thought it was merely to spare Osman Orpov, Uzbek Premier, for unsatisfactory cotton production. It is now deemed more likely that his visit was connected with the effort to tighten Russian and propaganda to the Asiatic peoples outside the U.S.S.R.

With the exception of the Tadzhiks, who speak Iranian, the belt of races inhabiting Soviet Central Asia are all Turkish or Turkic. It is possible that Moscow plans to develop a pan-Turkic movement similar to the traditional pan-Slavism in Europe.

One thing is certain: The U.S.S.R. has never sought to create a strong Communist Party in Turkey itself and has always planned if it should ever attempt to take over that stubborn land, to govern it with a military dictatorship of Soviet, rather than Anatolian, Turks.

OBSCURATE TURKS

Communism is outlawed in Turkey and the underground party there is very weak. The Kremlin has clearly been content with that situation. Presumably it has always feared the threat of "exceptionalism" or "Titism" among obscure Turkish Marxists. Furthermore, it has discouraged them by letting it be known to Kurds and Armenians that if Turkey is ever conquered by the U.S.S.R. these minorities will be permitted to have a vengeful field day.

From 1918 until 1939 the Western World was always on its guard against the advance of Soviet imperialism into Europe. From Karelia to the Ukraine, the western provinces of the U.S.S.R. were watched for symptoms of this menace. The path of empire has now turned eastward. One must look to the mysterious cities of Ashkabad, Samarkand, Bokhara, Tashkent and Alma Ata for hints.

District Nurses On Broomsticks

Dr Margaret Murray, in the middle seventies and every bit of four-foot-nine, looked up sternly, and said: "Young man, witches did ride on broomsticks, but they never actually took off."

"Mind you, they were accused of trying to, with a flying ointment. But they never quite became airborne."

Dr Murray, D Litt., FSA (Scot.), FRAI, Fellow of University College, London, whose academic attainments and publications all begin with "Who's Who," had been in the Reading Room of the British Museum making notes for a lecture on witches.

This little lady with the big mind knows all about witches. At the top of the Museum steps she talked to reporters of broomsticks and cauldrons, of potions and spells.

Witches weren't necessarily old and ugly and crotchety, Dr Margaret said. One—French, of course—was only 23. Even her inquirer said she was very beautiful.

They had nice names, like Agnes and Barbara and Eleanor. Eleanor, in fact, was a duchess. Really they were survivals of

pre-Christian times, religious women who healed with herbs. The broomstick legend arose because witches "rode" broom plants, in hobby-horse fashion, as a religious ritual.

The "flying ointment" was made of acorn, bat's blood and soap, but apparently nothing came of it.

The cauldron legend arose because witches used an iron cooking pot to brew their herbs.

So the witch was a kind of district nurse with a broomstick instead of a bicycle, whose religious views upset the monks.

There was one in every village of any size. They met in what was called a coven with 12 members and a grand master. And so Thirteen got its significance.

Dr Margaret Murray, with fuzzy grey hair and apple cheeks, walked back to her Bloomsbury lodging to polish up her lecture on witches.

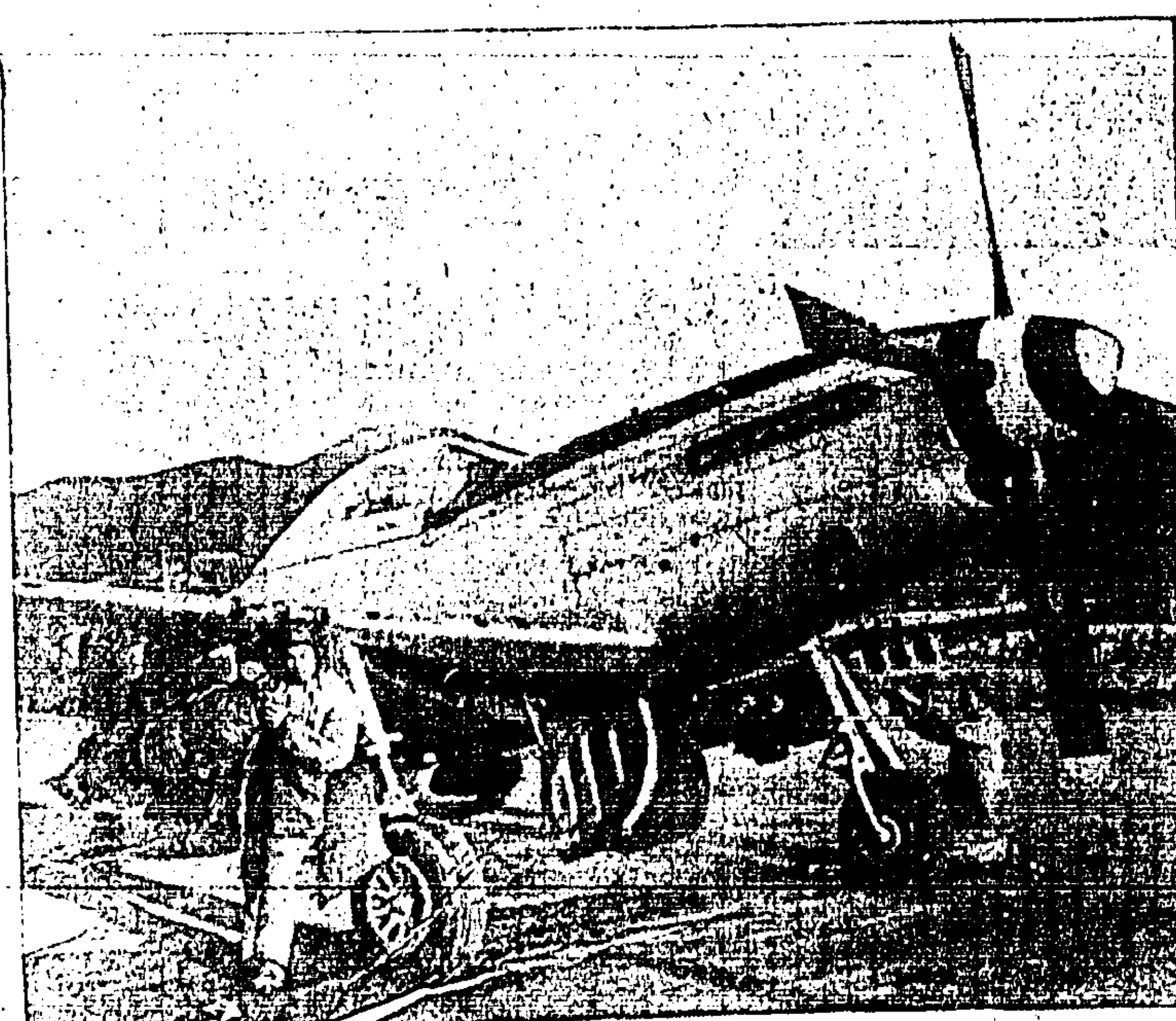
NEWS IN PICTURES



HELPING OUT—During the first rehearsal in Tel-Aviv of the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of Dr Serge Koussevitzky, left, American screen star Edward G. Robinson offered to play the violin. Here Dr Koussevitzky explains that his first violinist can act, too.



MOTHER AND DAUGHTER—Wendy, the three-month-old cub of Pauline, Malayan tigress at the Whipsnade Zoo, appears to be giving her mother an affectionate hug. The tiger den there is probably as good a place not to be in as any when visitors try to lure little Wendy to the edge of the cage for a gentle pat.



READY FOR RED TARGETS—Chinese Nationalist ground crewmen load a P-51 Mustang fighter with 250-pound bombs at a Chusan Islands airfield. From both Formosa and Hainan, planes are carrying on raids against Communist invasion concentrations and mainland communications.



GAY STRIPES—This three-piece, red and white striped cotton ensemble combines a halter-necked bra and brief shorts with a button-front middie blouse. The patch pockets, cuffs and collar are also striped.



ATOMIC SAFETY LESSON—Chief Petty Officer William Walker gives WREN Sheila Withington, right, a lesson on the use of the Geiger counter in Portsmouth. The WREN is in a class of trainees at a school for atomic warfare safety.



IS IT YES OR NO?—Hollywood rumours are romantically linking actress Shelley Winters and Gene Bearden, ace twirler for the Cleveland Indians. They are shown together in Tucson, Arizona, where Shelley is on location for a new film and Bearden is going into spring training. As usual, the rumours are being denied by both.

POCKET CARTOON

by OSBERT LANCASTER



Ghostly Reminder Of War Horror

By ROBERT C. MILLER

If ghosts bother you, stay away from Wake, for it is an island of dead men and dead ships, of shattered hopes and futile ambitions. Japan's dream of an empire died on its coral shores.

At least 200 Americans were killed defending this lonely Pacific atoll, 98 of them machine-gunned by a Japanese execution squad.

More than 3,000 Japanese died here, 1,242 of starvation.

Somewhere on Wake, still un-found, in the mass grave of 42 Americans who were killed during the night of December 11, 1941, casualties of the first four days of war.

Dry skulls and bleached bones are scattered under the scrubby green bushes and along the

shores of the three-square-mile island. Up-ended brown saki bottles headline the graves of the otherwise unmarked Japanese dead.

Luxurious trans-Pacific planes settle on runways bordered with the wreckage of Japanese and American fighters who fought for possession of these once-important acres, now unprotected by a single American rifleman.

Bored passengers, many of them Japanese, sleepily disembark where screaming Japanese charged ashore that fateful night of December 23, eight years ago, and overran the handful of defenders in a bitter seven-hour battle.

DIARY TELLS STORY

Massive concrete blockhouses mushroom out of the coral everywhere. One American built, others Japanese. In them lived some 4,000 Japanese for two hellish years, roasting rats and drinking leaf soup while awaiting starvation and the daily American bombings.

The broken hulls of two deliberately beached invasion craft and the torpedoes of a Sawa Maru still rest on the shore, rusting evidence of Japan's determination to capture this then vital island, and later her futile attempt to break the American blockade.

In the surf lies a barnacle-encrusted plane engine which carried some youngster to a sudden, hideous death. It is impossible to say whether he was American or Japanese.

Close by is the burned-out remains of a B-25. You know where it came from and who died in its long fall to earth. A Japanese private's diary tells how the bomber was "disintegrated by our AA fire and then enemy airmen burned beyond recognition." The private starved to death a year later.

But Wake houses its dead well. The brisk northeast trade winds blow perpetually over the clean white coral, quickly washing the air of decaying flesh odours. And the hot sun soon reduces men and machines to their skeletons.

ONLY BROWN STAINS

Oxidation is so fast that already there are only brown stains on the coral where iron and steel have rusted into dust and been blown away by the trades. The less durable flesh and bones blended with the coral long ago.

Side by side on the beaches are brown saki and American beer bottles left by conquered and conquerors alike; there the old wooden Japanese bathtub, the huge coastal guns brought from Singapore with their barrels pointing crazily skyward.

Today Wake is militarily useless. An atomic bomb could liquidate its defenders in a matter of seconds and make it uninhabitable for years afterward. United Press.

Noise Device Invented To Induce Sleep

A Chicago radio engineer has a device which he says is guaranteed to put you to sleep if you are in the right frame of mind.

Charles Beazley invented it for his wife but it worked so well he has made several more models and sold them to business men who had trouble sleeping.

It makes a noise a little like a foghorn, only softer and more monotonous, and looks like an office inter-communication box. It stands about 10 inches high, has a six-inch speaker and can be plugged into any wall socket.

It operates along Beazley's theory that "when the brain slows down to a certain point it automatically passes from the wakeful stage into sleep."

"Most people can't sleep because they get started on a certain train of thought and can't stop. But the 'slumberbug' keeps interrupting the thoughts and jumbling them up until all you can do is go to sleep," he said.

Although the "slumberbug" has not been tested widely yet, Beazley said it has worked on everyone who has tried it so far.

Modern Pilgrim

Wearing the long robe, sandals, wide-brimmed hat and carrying the staff of a pilgrim of the Middle Ages, a 50-year-old Barcelona businessman has completed a three-year walking tour through Spain. He has visited 5,000 churches and shrines.

"I would gladly go on walking for the rest of my life, if God would thereby hear me and make my only daughter healthy again," he said. The man's 10-year-old daughter has been an invalid since birth.

K. O. CANNON

The Riddle of the Red Domino



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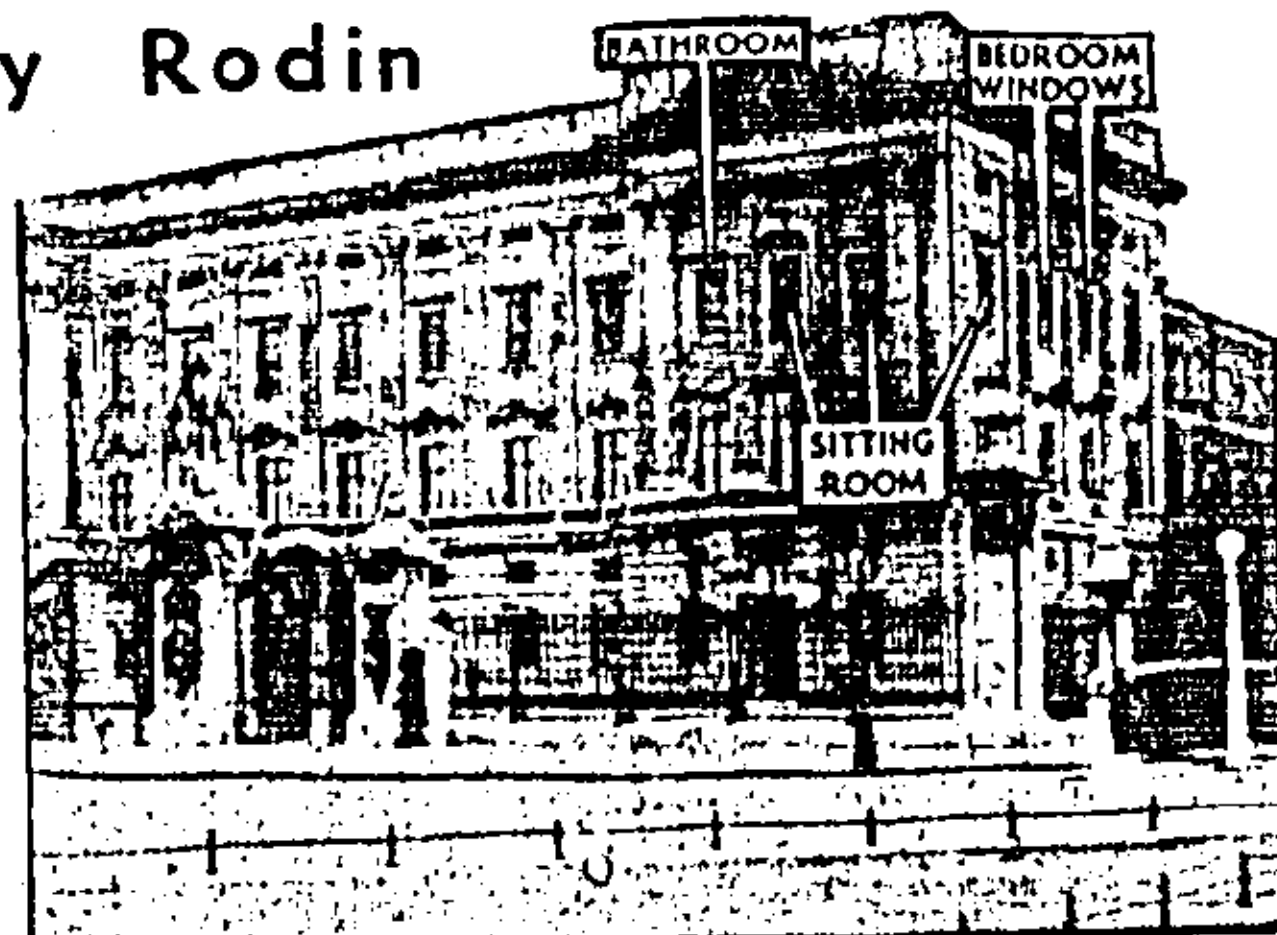
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**THE GIRL WHO MISSED THE
BIG WEEK OF PAGEANTRY****What happens when a
Princess has flu**

By Sidney Rodin



PRINCESS MARGARET'S suite in the Palace

PRINCESS MARGARET has not left her bedroom at Buckingham Palace, though she is making a good recovery from influenza.

Bowls of flowers bring the perfume of spring to the room with its lofty ceiling and pale-green walls, its pink curtains and beige carpet.

Most of the pictures are of flowers. The windows overlook Constitution Hill from the second floor of the Palace.

It has been quiet in there, with the radio playing softly for a little time each day. But the Princess, normally so high-spirited, is a good patient.

He is always cheery**WHAT HAPPENS** when a royal Princess is ill?

Sir John Weir, the King's Physician-in-Ordinary, is usually asked to call. He advises if a specialist is needed.

In Princess Margaret's case, Lady Delia Peel, then on duty as the Queen's Lady-in-Waiting, called Sir John by telephone.

Rotund, white-whiskered Sir John, a 70-year-old Glaswegian, is always cheery.

His presence and smiling countenance have comforted members of the Royal Family when he has attended them during his quarter century of royal service.

Sir John, a picture of health, radiates confidence. He is one of the outstanding homeopaths—i.e., doc-

tors who believe in treating disease by administering small doses of drugs which produce effects on the body similar to the symptoms caused by the disease itself.

Sir John was the first to come to Princess Margaret when she developed appendicitis three years ago. He was with her when she had measles in 1948 and when she ricked her neck in the same year.

The Princess enjoys his endless fund of jokes which he tells in his pawky Scottish manner.

The Queen's visits**THE Queen** was a frequent visitor to her daughter's bedside directly the stage of infection had passed.

Neither she nor the King could risk catching the flu because of their heavy public duties, especially during the visit of the French President.

When Princess Margaret underwent her operation for appendicitis the Queen sat by her until she was out of danger, and during her

attack of measles she was with her again. And she absented herself from a gala performance of the Covent Garden ballet so that she should not spread the infection.

Another faithful companion in the invalid's room has been the Princess's personal maid, Miss MacDonald, although when her daughter is ill the Queen likes to take over the maid's duties.

Nurses are not brought in to look after the Princess as a matter of course if she is ill. They are summoned only when the doctor considers it necessary.

When she is able, Margaret takes her own medicine. She never likes to be waited on unnecessarily.

Both doctors and nurses say she is an easy patient to treat. She is content to lie in bed and recover, showing no impatience or regret over the social evenings she is missing.

With the risk of infection, she did not have any of her friends in to see her, but she would be told, of course, of any inquiries they made, and she will telephone them as soon as she is well enough to be visited.

Neither Sir John Weir, nor the Queen allows any special pampering so far as food is concerned. It consists principally of chicken, jellies, and fruit.

Once each day's diet is decided by the doctor the details are passed to the Palace chef by

her maid, and the rest is left to him.

Fortunately, Princess Margaret has no special likes or dislikes in food when ill. She eats and drinks without a murmur anything the doctor selects.

At all times she is a very small eater. Her only strong drink is an occasional glass of champagne taken during a meal. She does not smoke.

Passing the time**HOW** will Margaret pass her time now she is in the sitting-up stage? She will read mostly light fiction, women's magazines, news about fashions, and the brighter columns of the newspapers.

She likes light, tuneful music on her bedside radio, such as "Family Favourites," good crooning, and modern dance music.

She has a partiality for yodeling and likes amusing programmes.

She is naturally of a sunny disposition and has not much need of manufactured amusements to make her cheerful.

Sir John will continue to call at least once a day to see her, but the Princess has an excellent constitution, and is well able to withstand the normal run of illnesses, despite her somewhat ethereal look.

She is young enough to take ordinary illnesses in her stride and has never had any serious reaction from a temporary breakdown in health.

Many messages**THERE** have been many telegrams arriving at the Palace from people unknown to her personally, anxious to express their sympathy.

Bouquets and gifts of fruit have also been sent, but only those from relatives or personal friends reach the sick room.

Those who know her best say that Princess Margaret is lovable and responds to kindness. Like all other girls, immediately she was allowed to sit up she wore pretty dressing jackets, usually choosing pink or blue.

—London Express Service.

'G'**—BEHIND THIS SYMBOL
ARE TWO LIFE-SAVERS
WHEN PLANES CRASH**

by Wing-Commander PAUL RICHEY

WHY DO PLANES CRASH? The critical moments in a plane's flight are not when it is high in the sky, but when it is taking off or landing. Then it is travelling at only slightly faster than its minimum flying speed. If its speed drops it will lose flying speed or "stall".
IMAGINE a great, heavily loaded plane, flaps and undercarriage down, coming in to land. The pilot finds he is too low; he opens his engines full-bore for speed, height, and safety. Then suddenly an engine cuts out.
THE PILOT dare not raise his flaps to reduce drag—that would cause him to stall first, and there is no time to raise the undercarriage. The pilot tries to control the swing, the engines struggle to raise the great plane. But weight and drag win, the plane stalls—and then comes the crash.
EXPERTS estimate that, of all air crashes, half occur during take-off or landing. At least three-quarters of these are "survivable." By "survivable" they mean that all or at least most of the passengers could survive—if certain safety devices are built in the plane. **WHY ARE THEY NOT USED?****TWO** ways to save lives in crashed planes are being neglected by Britain's civil airlines. Both methods have been proved effective beyond any doubt; both are accepted and used by the R.A.F.**THE FIRST:** All new R.A.F. transport planes are fitted or being fitted with seats which face towards the tail of the plane. The Vikings of the King's Flight have these back-to-the-engine seats.

This seating device was tested and proven by doctors and scientists at the Institute of Aviation Medicine, Farnborough, Hants. Shock tests were made on a dummy—the Standard Man—which has metal limbs approximately the same strength as the human body.

When the seated dummy was propelled at the speed of a crashing aircraft it was found to escape the forward whiplash action—which causes most air-crash deaths—when it faced the tail.

THE SECOND: R.A.F. pilot's seats are firmly anchored and fitted with special shoulder harness capable of taking a strain of 25 "G"—which is 25 times the strain imposed by gravity on the pilot's body.

The safety-value of a harness and an anchored seat capable of resisting a forward jolt of 25 G has been proved experimentally and in crashes in Britain and in America. But still British civil airlines do not follow.

Like the American civil airlines—which specify 6 G—the British are prepared to do little more than keep passengers in their seats in really bumpy weather.

The arguments of the B.O.A.C. and B.E.A. are twofold:—

(a) **TO FACE** passengers backwards is bad psychology; it makes people crash-conscious.(b) **PASSENGERS** might object to sitting with their backs to the engines.

Yet when two Dakotas were fitted experimentally with reversed seats, more than 80 percent of the passengers said they preferred it. Some said it made them feel less air sick.

The R.A.F.'s dummy-man experiments have been carried a stage further in America to prove that the human body can stand the strain of 25 G—and more when held in position by a harness.

In tests at Edwards Field, Muroc, California, U.S. Air Force doctor Major John P. Stapp allowed himself to be propelled on a special sled at 150 miles per hour—then stopped in a few feet.

The resulting throwing-forward force on Major Stapp has been measured at 35 G and once at 57 G. This is vastly greater than the force on passengers in most "survivable" crashes. And Major Stapp is alive to continue his experiments.

Another American, William I. Stieglitz, showed the Institute of Aeronautical Sciences how different flying authorities were dealing with the problem.

The U.S. Air Force, he said, specified 17 G for their seats and

harness, and the U.S. Navy 40 G, enough to take the shock of landing violently on water.

The Australian Department of Civil Aviation has recently proposed 22 G.

Only a new attitude to crashes can prevent further unnecessary loss of life. Aviation authorities and designers must accept that—in spite of good design and fine engines—airplanes do crash, just as ships sink.

Marine authorities long ago laid down strict safety requirements for ships. Aviation authorities should do the same.

—(London Express Service)

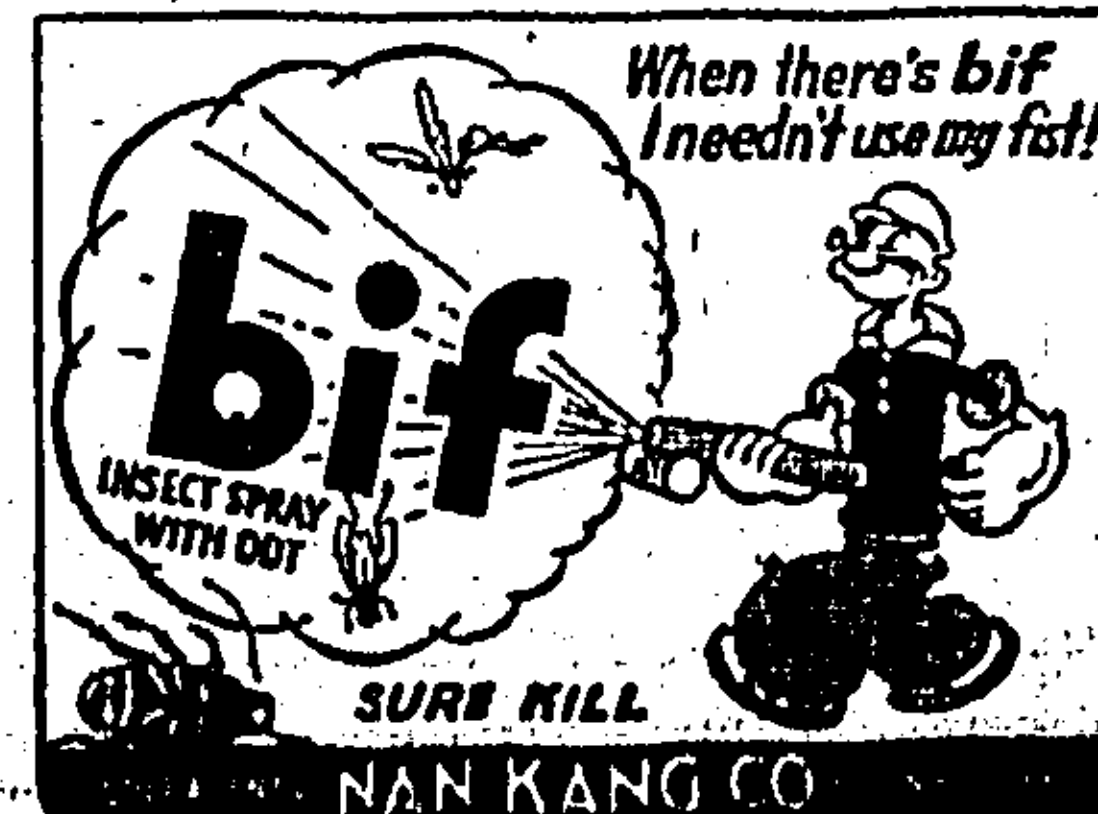
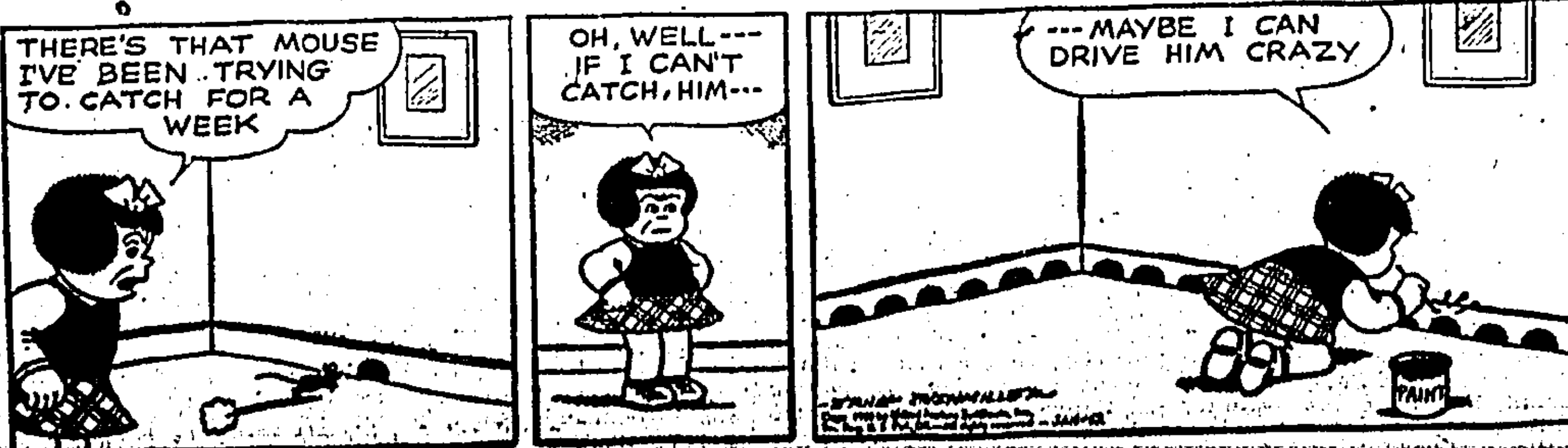
**ARE YOU
A GOOD
WIFE?****FROM** Hamburg comes the magazine *Blick in die Welt* (Look at the World), with a 15-point quiz under the heading: "Are you a good wife?"You have to answer yes or no to these questions:—
ARE you proud of your husband and glad about his successes?
DO you speak to him about your problems, and confide your secrets to him?**ARE** you usually good tempered and enjoy housework?
???????**DO** you let your husband convince you even if at first you have a different opinion?
DO you run your home so well he shares your enthusiasm?**DO** you tell him that you love him and that he is the only man for you?
DO you try to amuse your husband when he is worried and depressed?**DO** you see that he is not disturbed when he is tired?
DO you go through the stomach, so does he enjoy your meals?**DO** you show him how pleased you are when he is tender to you and caresses you?
ARE you a good housekeeper and do not worry your husband about unpaid bills?**DO** you fly into a temper very often and want to smash everything?
???????**DO** you spy on your husband's movements and search his pockets at night?
HAVE you habits which get on his nerves?**MOTHER-IN-LAW** themes: Are there quarrels between you and his relatives?
EVERY YES to the first 11 questions counts one point; so does every NO to the last four questions.If you score ten points the magazine says you are an average wife. But if you have seven or less, it says "God protect your marriage."
IF you have 12 or more, madam, then you are the ideal wife.

—London Express Service

NANCY

A-mazing

By Ernie Bushmiller



FOR THE BUSINESSMAN

Acheson To Consider Trygve Lie Proposal

Washington, Mar. 22.—The Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, today promised careful consideration for the proposal made by the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Trygve Lie, for a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the Security Council Powers.

Mr. Acheson had been asked at his weekly press conference to comment on the proposal, made by Mr. Lie in a speech here last night, that a Security Council meeting shall be held at which members could be represented by their Foreign Ministers, or even the heads of Governments.

Mr. Lie pointed out that the United Nations Charter provided for such special meetings of the Council twice a year, but so far none had been held.

Mr. Acheson said today that any suggestion by Mr. Lie would be given careful and respectful consideration by the United States Government and by all other members of the Security Council.

He supposed that the meeting would have to gain general consent from all members of the Security Council before it could be held.

Mr. Acheson declined to discuss the subject, saying that the agenda for such a meeting, or to say how it might differ from normal meetings of the Council—Reuter.

MOSCOW ATTACK
Moscow, Mar. 22.—The New Times magazine, denouncing the speech of the United States Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Acheson, today took a line similar to Sunday's Pravda, namely that Mr. Acheson's total diplomacy sounds like total war.

Writer L. L. Rovinsky, analysing Mr. Acheson's "seven commandments of total diplomacy," indignantly and categorically rejected every one, saying the plan was the "twin sister of atomic diplomacy or the policy of force, economic expansion, and military aggression."

He branded Mr. Acheson's denial that America seeks satellites as the "pearl of Pharosism," stating that Italy, France, and other countries are run by American satellites.

Like previous Soviet utterances, the New Times accused the United States of practising threats, "pursuing Forrestal's spiritual heritage of brandishing existing atom bombs or imaginary hydrogen bombs."

But, declared the magazine, nothing can frighten the Soviet Union, and Acheson displayed his own intellectual poverty in trying to defend the bankrupt American foreign policy—United Press.

LIE'S CALLS
Washington, Mar. 22.—Mr. Trygve Lie, United Nations Secretary-General, had "considerable" talks at the State Department today with Mr. Dean Acheson, Deputy Under-Secretary of State, and other officials.

He would not disclose any details of the discussions.

Mr. Lie also called on Dr. Philip Jessup, American Ambassador at Large who recently returned from a tour of the Far East, and Mr. John Hickerson, Assistant Secretary of State for United Nations affairs—Reuter.

GUARDING AIR APPROACHES
Washington, Mar. 22.—More fighter units were today ordered to America's Northwest to guard air approaches to the atomic plant at Hanford, Washington State, and other vital defence establishments.

The Air Force announced that the headquarters of the 81st Fighter Interceptor Wing and two of its squadrons are being moved from Kirtland base, Albuquerque, New Mexico, to the base at Moses Lake, Washington.

This Wing is equipped with American Sabre jet fighters.

About 1,200 people will be involved in the transfer—Reuter.

Receives George Medal At Palace



Sgt. Ronald Warwick, of the RASC, with his mother and father-in-law, leaving Buckingham Palace after he had received from the King the George Medal for saving a trapped man from the top of a burning building.

London Silent On Reported Proposal By Egyptian Govt.

London, Mar. 22.—A Foreign Office spokesman had "no comment" to make on a report in the Cairo Wafdist newspaper, Al Misra, that Egypt had told Britain she was ready to open negotiations to settle outstanding questions between the two countries.

An Egyptian Embassy spokesman would neither confirm nor deny the report.

According to the report, the Egyptian Ambassador, Abdel Fattah Amer Pasha, left memorandum with Mr. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, yesterday, calling for the evacuation of the Suez Canal Zone by the British and the unity of Egypt and the Sudan.

Observers here interpreted the reference of official sources in two ways.

1. That it was premature to predict early negotiations.

Britain, it was argued, would have to consider carefully the two conditions mentioned by Al Misra before replying to the initiative from Cairo—probably at a Cabinet level.

DOUBLE PURPOSE
2. Cairo's reported offer, if confirmed with its accompanying conditions, would, observers said, serve a double purpose from the point of view of the Egyptian Government.

Firstly, it would meet the popular wish in Egypt for the new Wafdist Government to establish valid relationship with Britain and, secondly, it would gain time in which Cairo would see whether the present British Government, with its slender majority, was likely to live long enough to carry through negotiations.

Alternatively, if London accepted Amer Pasha's reported offer with its accompanying conditions, this would represent a major diplomatic triumph for the new Egyptian Government.

Later tonight the Foreign Office in London stated that the Egyptian Ambassador and Mr. Bevin had "a friendly discussion on matters of mutual interest"—Reuter.

Calwell Criticises Spender
Canberra, Mar. 22.—The former Minister of Information and Immigration, Mr. A. Calwell, today attacked the decision of the External Affairs Minister, Mr. Percy Spender, to appoint ambassadors to Manila and Jakarta.

Mr. Calwell told the House of Representatives that Mr. Spender's decision "does not give added security to this country. These countries will never give real friendship to Australia until we allow their nationals to come here despite the fact that they themselves have discriminatory laws."

Answering questions in the House, Mr. Spender said his Government is considering the idea of restricting the movements of Soviet Embassy officials in Australia, as the Russians limit the movements of Australians in Russia. He said the Soviet Union has about 20 diplomatic representatives in Australia—far more than Australia has in Moscow—United Press.

Shah Appoints New Premier
Teheran, Mar. 22.—Persia's Shah today appointed Ali Mansur Manoucheh to form a new cabinet. Mansur was at one time premier, Governor of Azerbaijan, and a former director of the seven-year plan—United Press.

PEARL BUCK SAYS: AMERICA MUST MAINTAIN EVERY CHINA CONTACT

Rutherford, N.J., Mar. 22.—Noted author Pearl Buck, in an address to more than 600 New Jersey Women's Club members and students at Fairleigh Dickinson College pointed out that ideologically it is impossible for the United States to recognize the Chinese Communist government now.

However, she recommended that "we maintain all possible contact in China, and even if it means risking our investments and swallowing our pride we should make contact through business, through missionaries and through friends in China."

Equality For Chinese In Canada Demanded

Ottawa, Mar. 22.—Walter Harris, Citizenship and Immigration Minister, was confronted today with a demand to remove discrimination in Canada's immigration laws.

The Committee for the Repeal of the Chinese Immigration Law said in a brief presented to Mr. Harris that the present law treated the Chinese as "second class citizens on account of race" and demanded its abolition.

"Chinese should have the same rights as any other Canadian resident to bring their children here, regardless of age," the brief said. It asked for the repeal of Order-in-Council 2115, which requires Chinese to become Canadian citizens before their wives are allowed to come to Canada.

The order also requires Chinese children to be under 16 years of age before being admitted.

"However you look at it," a matter of justice, religion, humanity, democracy or citizenship—it is no more than right that the changes we ask for should be made," said the brief, presented by Committee spokesman Irving Hume of Toronto.

The delegation denied the report of the Order-in-Council would result in extensive Oriental immigration—United Press.

Sculptor Was Surprised

Bombay, Mar. 22.—The Bombay sculptor, Mr. B. Wagh, who made and erected the full-size bronze statue of Mahatma Gandhi in Karachi, today expressed surprise at the fall of the statue "blown by high winds" as reported from Karachi yesterday.

Mr. Wagh said that the pedestal was made of solid stone and fixed very firmly. An attempt by some persons to damage the statue 15 days prior to the unveiling by Dr. E. R. Raghuram in 1945 proved futile.

In 1948 Bombay was swept over by the worst cyclone in history but not one statue in the city was shaken. It was therefore thought it impossible that a gust of wind, however strong, could have pulled down the Mahatma Gandhi statue—Reuter.

Turkish Assembly
Ankara, Mar. 22.—The Turkish National Assembly will be dissolved on Friday to prepare for general elections, due on May 14, it was announced today—Reuter.

White Settlers Oppose East Africa Changes

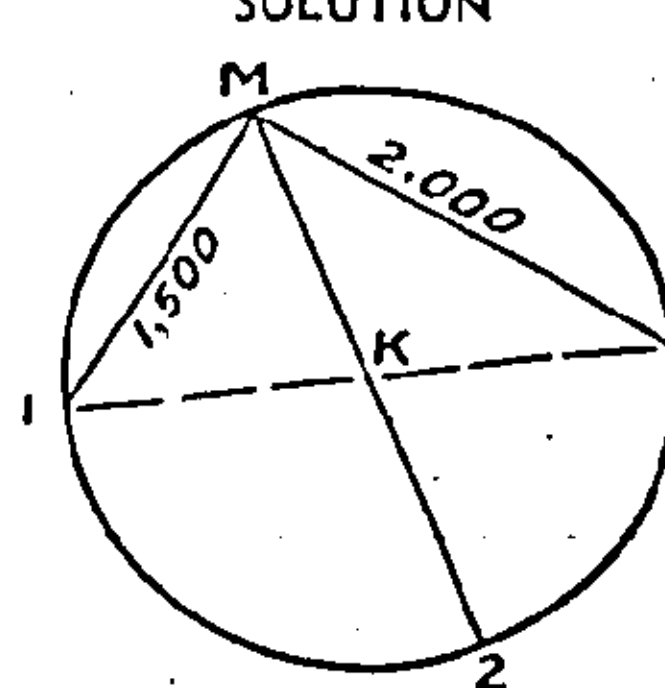
Nairobi, Kenya, Mar. 22.—The East African Indian National Congress today welcomed the proposed constitutional changes in the British Colony of Tanganyika. A resolution adopted by the Congress' Executive Committee "strongly deprecated" opposition amongst British settlers in East Africa to the changes.

The proposals have not yet been officially made public, but it was reported that the planned electoral system might result in a Tanganyika Legislative Council without a single elected European.

The settlers' opposition was aimed at extending "policies of permanent domination of one community over other communities and suppression of the legitimate rights of non-European races," the Committee claimed.

"I fervently hoped that the Tanganyika Government would not yield to the clamour of the small European community and that it would not abandon these 'progressive proposals'."

RECREATION GROUND: SOLUTION



This exercise is used, of course, on the theorem of Pythagoras. M is the main entrance. K is the other entrance to the recreation ground. Since M runs SSW and K runs ESE, these two roads are at right angles. Hence the distance from M to K is 2500 yards, and this must be a diameter of the circle. So "Main Avenue" is 2500 yards long also—London Express Service.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers
1. Of sound mind. 2. Tass. 3. The Hawaiian Islands. 4. Insect. 5. Cocaine. 6. Alexandre Dumas.

Letterheads



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POCKET CARTOON



And instead of bringing teacher the usual apple to-morrow morning, may I suggest a potato for a change?

Fuchs Case Will Not Change Law

London, Mar. 22.—Lord Jowitt, the Lord Chancellor, declared in the House of Lords today that Britain does not intend to revise the procedure under which a foreign subject acquires British nationality, following the recent conviction of the German-born atom spy, Dr. Klaus Fuchs.

Dr. Fuchs, who had acquired British nationality, was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment for passing atom secrets to Russia.

Lord Broughshane, Conservative, suggested that applicants for naturalisation should be referred to a committee who would go into the facts and report to the Home Secretary before a naturalisation certificate was issued.

Lord Jowitt replied: "I doubt very much whether you would get any added security by having a committee."—Reuter.

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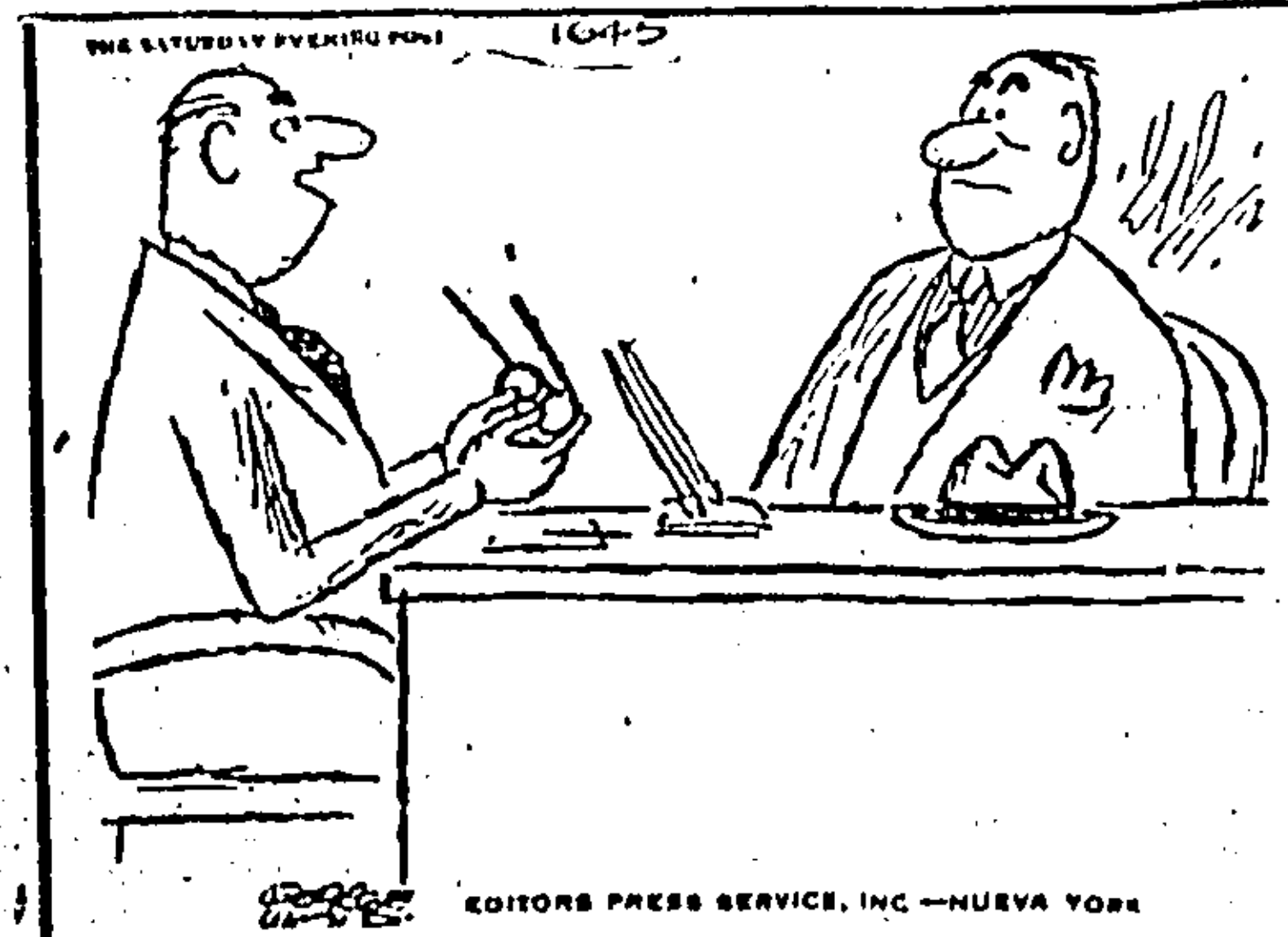
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You'd better see another doctor, Mr. Berg. I can cure you, but it would put me in a higher income bracket!

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